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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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September 29, 2016

Murphy sets fall Drug Take Back for Saturday, Oct. 22 *Anonymous medication drop-off offered to residents*

MURPHY (September 29, 2016) Drugs, medications, prescriptions, and even over-the-counter medicines can pile up at home, presenting residents with a challenge on how to dispose them safely and securely.

“That is precisely the reason for the Drug Take Back Days that we offer,” says Police Lt. Adana Barber. “We cooperate with the federal Drug Enforcement Agency on these events, providing two opportunities a year for the disposal of these potentially harmful substances.”

The autumn version of the Drug Take Back event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Murphy Police Department lobby, 206 North Murphy Road. Weather permitting, officers will accept medications dropped off curbside. This is the second event for the year, having offered one in the spring.

The free drop-off is designed to provide a place where unwanted or expired drugs can be safely and securely removed from circulation. Accepting these substances also prevents them from being introduced into the water supply.

Several fully-attended collection receptacles will be available to accept the drugs for eventual disposal. The service is anonymous, in that no one will ask questions regarding the medications.

Nevertheless, the program is not intended for illicit or illegal drugs or paraphernalia. And, needles, syringes and pressurized inhalers will not be accepted. The last several Drug Take Back events have resulted in local residents bringing in an average of 200 pounds of unused, unwanted, expired or unknown drugs, both of the prescription and over-the-counter variety.

“Disposing these drugs properly prevents them from being abused,” she said. “Over 70 percent of people abusing prescription pain relievers get them through friends or relatives right out of the family medicine cabinet.”

Also, people who flush prescription drugs down their toilets or sinks may be placing the larger community at risk, since the contaminated wastewater may eventually find its way back into the system.

For more information on the program, residents may call (972) 468-4210 or send an e-mail to Lt. Barber at abarber@murphytx.org.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.